Unknown

From: Rehfeld, Karen J (GOV) [/O=SOA/OU=FIRST ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=KJREHFELD]

Sent: Saturday, December 01, 2007 10:15 AM

To: 'Gerry Merrigan'; Palin; Sarah H (GOV)

Cc: Crome; Cora J (GOV); 'Denis Wiesenburg'; Pitney; Pat (SOA sponsored)

Subject: RE: UAF School of Fisheries Budget: Expansion of Undergraduate Fisheries Program

Dear Gerry - Thank you for your email to Governor Palin in support of the University of Alaska's FY2009 operating budget increase of $1 million for the fisheries program. The University's efforts to attract Alaska's high school graduates and provide postsecondary education necessary to meet the growing demands for jobs in Alaska are very impressive. We also recognize the challenges facing the University in delivering these services given the rising costs of doing business. The University's budget recently adopted by the Board of Regents is a key part of our budget development.

As you know, we are developing the FY2009 operating and capital budgets that will be release to the public in December. The governor's budget goals are very clear: to slow the growth of government, live within our means, and save for the future. Within this budget discipline, our priorities must be to promote a strong economy, world-class education, safer communities, and solid infrastructure. The budget will prioritize spending, make substantial investments in core services, and save for our future.

The budget will focus on the state's basic responsibilities, schools, public safety, and needed transportation improvements that are essential to getting Alaska's infrastructure ready for the state's economic future. We look forward to working with municipal leaders, legislators, and the public to develop a responsible and sustainable budget for the State of Alaska. Thank you for taking the time to share you support for the University's budget.

Karen

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Karen J. Rehfeld, Director
Office of Management & Budget
465-3568

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From: Gerry Merrigan [mailto:merrigan@gci.net]
Sent: Wednesday, November 28, 2007 2:17 PM
To: Palin, Sarah H (GOV)
Cc: Crome, Cora J (GOV); Rehfeld, Karen J (GOV); 'Denis Wiesenburg'
Subject: UAF School of Fisheries Budget: Expansion of Undergraduate Fisheries Program

Dear Governor

I would like to urge you to consider and support the new Bachelor of Arts program in Fisheries that UAF is proposing. There already exists a program for training fisheries biologists with a strong emphasis toward science and statistics. As you are aware, Alaska has been a leader in successful fisheries management in the State and Federal fisheries, with a large amount of credit going to abundant resources, favorable ocean climatic conditions, and adherence to "good" science in the fishery policy and management arenas. The program proposed by UAF is

to provide a curriculum for those that will be involved in fisheries in the broader sense (beyond biological management). In particular, this curriculum would be for participants in the fisheries (harvesters); the fishing industry (processors, marketers etc) or as a policy maker involved in the fisheries.

The world of fishing has become increasingly complex and the level of understanding necessary to be able to intelligently participate in the fisheries and the fishery management processes has risen considerably. In order to be successful in this age, fishermen have to be much better business managers and understand the potential return on long term investments in gear, vessels, and permits. Into that equation, fishermen need to be able to read fishery stock assessments for trends, age class strengths, recruitment curves – much as one would read a stock prospectus. Additionally, it now requires an increasing depth of knowledge to effectively participate at fisheries management bodies such as the Board of Fisheries, NPFMC, IPHC. While there will always be a need for people to speak plain and simple from their hearts and be heard at these forums, there is also a need for a level of understanding by some participants and decision makers to bring these concepts to fruition.

Additionally, fisheries world-wide and in Alaska have come under attack by those that employ questionable science – with dubious extrapolated conclusions – but have foundation financial support and a fast-track into the popular press. Unfortunately, the corrections and retractions do not receive the same publicity. Participants in fisheries-related fields need to be able to discern between "good" science and "headline" science and not be swayed by sensationalism.

However, many of us that are involved in fisheries have varied backgrounds. As a case in point, I currently sit on the NPFMC. While I have fished commercially since 1981, and have worked as a Fishery Biologist 1 (Land Use), have a college degree – I have never had a class in fisheries management – I have degree in forestry. Most of what I learned about fisheries, models, and management systems was at the elbow of some very patient people during the course of Pacific Salmon Treaty negotiations, Board of Fishery and Council meetings. A program like the one proposed would have been helpful for myself along the way – especially today as I try to explain current fishery management issues to local fishermen. While there are many good knowledgeable people active in fisheries and fisheries policy today, I think we all could have benefited greatly from a program that is being proposed. On the flip side, there are also many people who have strong opinions on fisheries management – but very little acquaintance with factual information. The proposed program would have positive benefits here as well.

While the results of such a program may be years off, I believe the time to start is now as things are likely to become more complex in the world of fishing. Thank you for your consideration.

Gerry Merrigan

NPFMC member, NPRB member
Petersburg, AK

Unknown

From: gov.sarah@yahoo.com
Sent: Monday, December 03, 2007 8:44 PM
To: Katz; John W (GOV); Mason; Janice L (GOV); Perry; Kristina Y (GOV)
Cc: Bishop; Samuel T (GOV); Tibbles; Michael A (GOV); Leighow; Sharon W (GOV)
Subject: Re: Manchin/Palin Letter to Congress

Thanks, DC office!

Sent from my BlackBerry® device from Cellular One

-----Original Message-----

From: "John Katz" <jwkatz@ALASKADC.org>

Date: Mon, 03 Dec 2007 10:40:00

To:"Janice Mason" <janice_mason@gov.state.ak.us>,"Kris Perry" <kris_perry@gov.state.ak.us>

Cc:"Sam Bishop" <sbishop@ALASKADC.org>,"Michael Tibbles" <michael_tibbles@gov.state.ak.us>,"Sharon Leighow" <sharon_leighow@gov.state.ak.us>,"Governor Sarah Palin" <gov.sarah@yahoo.com>

Subject: Manchin/Palin Letter to Congress

Attached for your files is the final version of the Governors Manchin/Palin letter to Congress concerning funding for PILT and Secure Rural Schools.

Sharon, this letter might make for a good press release on a slow news day. In particular, communities in Southeast are quite dependent on funding under the Secure Rural Schools program and have expressed their support in the past. In addition, PILT helps compensate communities located on federal lands administered by the BLM for the inability of such communities to impose taxes.

If you need further information, please let Sam or me know.

Please note that my email address has changed. My new email address is <mailto:jwkatz@alaskadc.org> jwkatz@alaskadc.org. Thank you .

>>> On 12/3/2007 at 9:55 AM, in message <LYRIS-697-121090-2007.12.03-09.56.43--jwkatz#alaskadc.org@talk.nga.org>, "Moore, Tess" <TMoore@NGA.ORG> wrote:

Attached is a letter from Governor Manchin and Governor Palin to leadership on the Public Land Communities Transition Assistance Act of 2007.

If you have any questions, contact Beth Strobridge at bstrobridge@nga.org <mailto:bstrobridge@nga.org>

PLEASE DO NOT REPLY DIRECTLY TO THIS E-MAIL AS IT WAS SENT VIA A LIST SERVE.